

California OES Weather Threat Briefing

Sunday, December 19, 2021
9:00 AM PST

Day 1 (Sunday): Rain and snow showers will move into coastal far northern California Sunday night, but impacts are expected to be minimal over the next 24 hours.

National Weather Service

*Western Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Salt Lake City, UT*



WEATHER KEY POINTS

12/19/21 - 12/25/21

Sunday - Saturday

- A change to a wet and windier pattern will occur over the next several days.
 - Light rain and gusty winds up to 50 mph will arrive on Sunday for coastal Humboldt and Del Norte counties, with widespread precipitation moving onshore into northern California late Monday. Showers, heavy at times, will continue intermittently throughout the week.
 - On Monday and Tuesday during the onset of the event, snow levels will range between 3000 ft and 4500 ft across northern California, but may lower in the Trinity Alps Tuesday. By Wednesday, snow levels will rise to around 4500-6500 feet in the Sierra, then decrease again Thursday into Friday.
 - Preliminary expected rainfall amounts Monday/Tuesday through Saturday morning:
 - 2 to 4 inches across much of coastal northern California and the northern California valleys
 - 3 to 7 inches for the Sierra foothills and most Bay Area Mountains
 - 6 to 8+ inches (water equivalent including snow) over the Sierra mountains
 - 0.5 inch to 1.25 inches in the San Joaquin Valley
 - Several feet of mountain snow are forecast above 7000 feet across the Sierra, with significant impact to mountain travel expected Tuesday through late week. Elevations down to 5000 feet will also see significant snowfall accumulations, but the rain/snow line will fluctuate during the event..
 - For the San Joaquin and Southern California, precipitation is forecasted for each period from Tuesday through the end of the week, but the heaviest accumulations of rain and snow are indicated for Thursday and Friday. There is low confidence on timing and amounts for Southern California at this time, but this event could be a moderate impact rain event, with snow at higher elevations. An impact to the Grapevine is not anticipated at this time.
- Snow may affect lower elevation passes down to 2000ft on Christmas Eve and Day across far northern California, and may fall below 1000 ft on Sunday.



CALIFORNIA WEATHER IMPACTS

12/19/21 - 12/25/21

| <u>Hazards / Day</u> | SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|-----|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Non-Thunderstorm Damaging Winds | | | | | | | |
| Snow | | Coastal/ Inland | Coastal/ Inland | Coastal/ Inland | Coastal/ Inland | All | Coastal/ Inland |
| Coastal Flooding | | | | | | | |
| River Flooding | | | | | | | |
| Thunderstorms (Wind / Hail / Tornadoes) | | | | | | | |
| Fire Weather (Low Humidity / Wind / Dry Thunderstorms) | | | | | | | |
| Heat Risk | | | | | | | |
| Heavy Rain/Flash Flooding/ Debris Flow | | | Coastal/ Inland | All Regions | All Regions | All Regions | Coastal/ Inland |
| Cold | | | | | | | |



No Impacts



Minimal Impacts



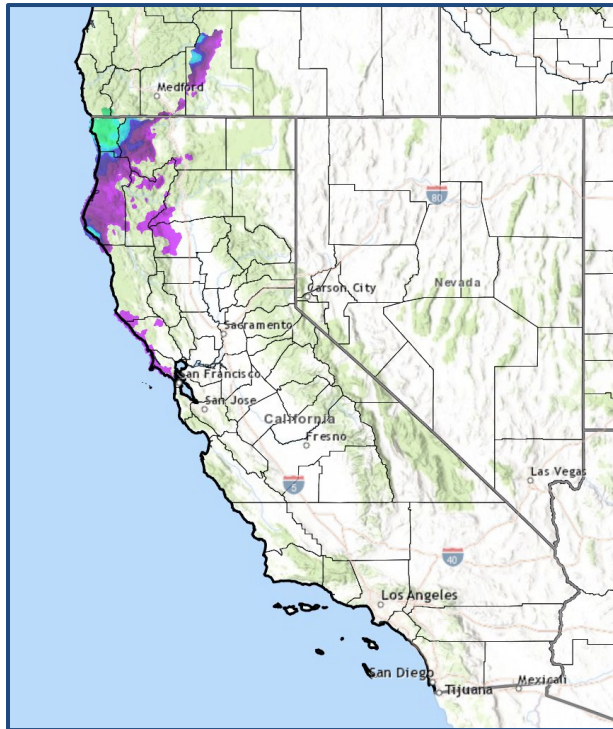
Moderate Impacts



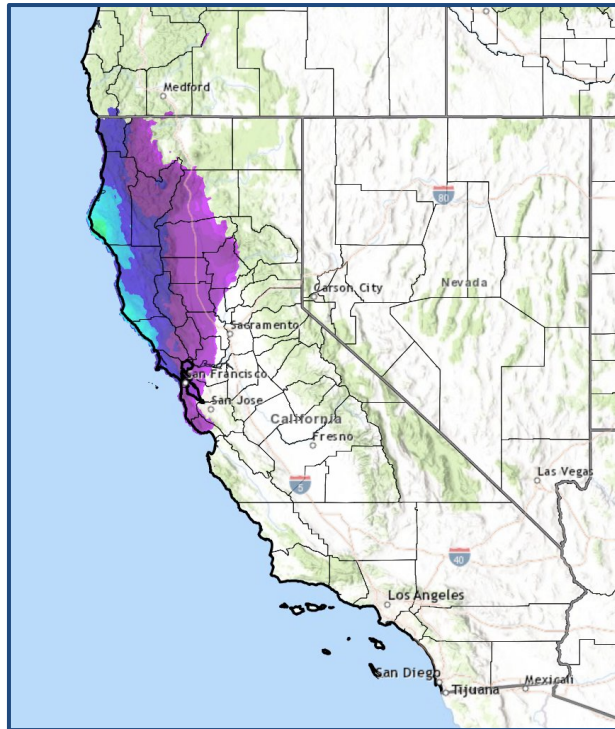
Severe Impacts

PRECIPITATION FORECAST

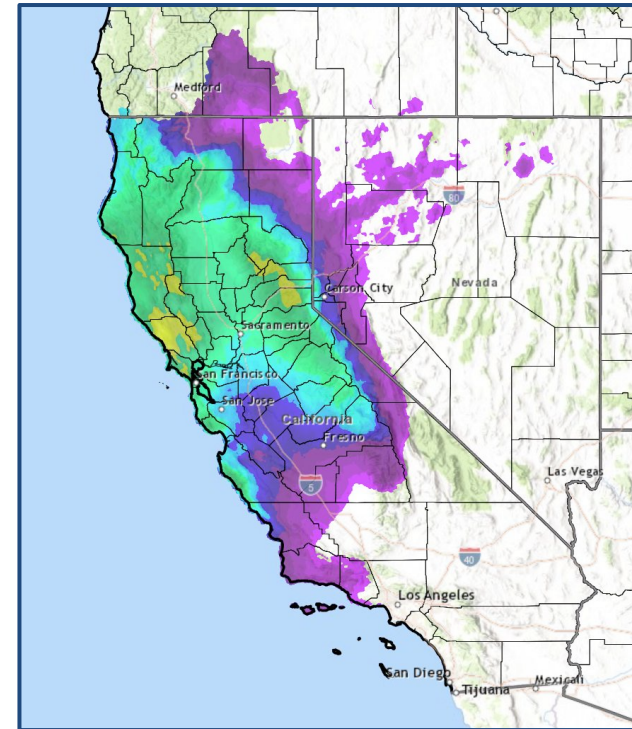
12/19/21 - 12/21/21



Sunday



Monday



Tuesday

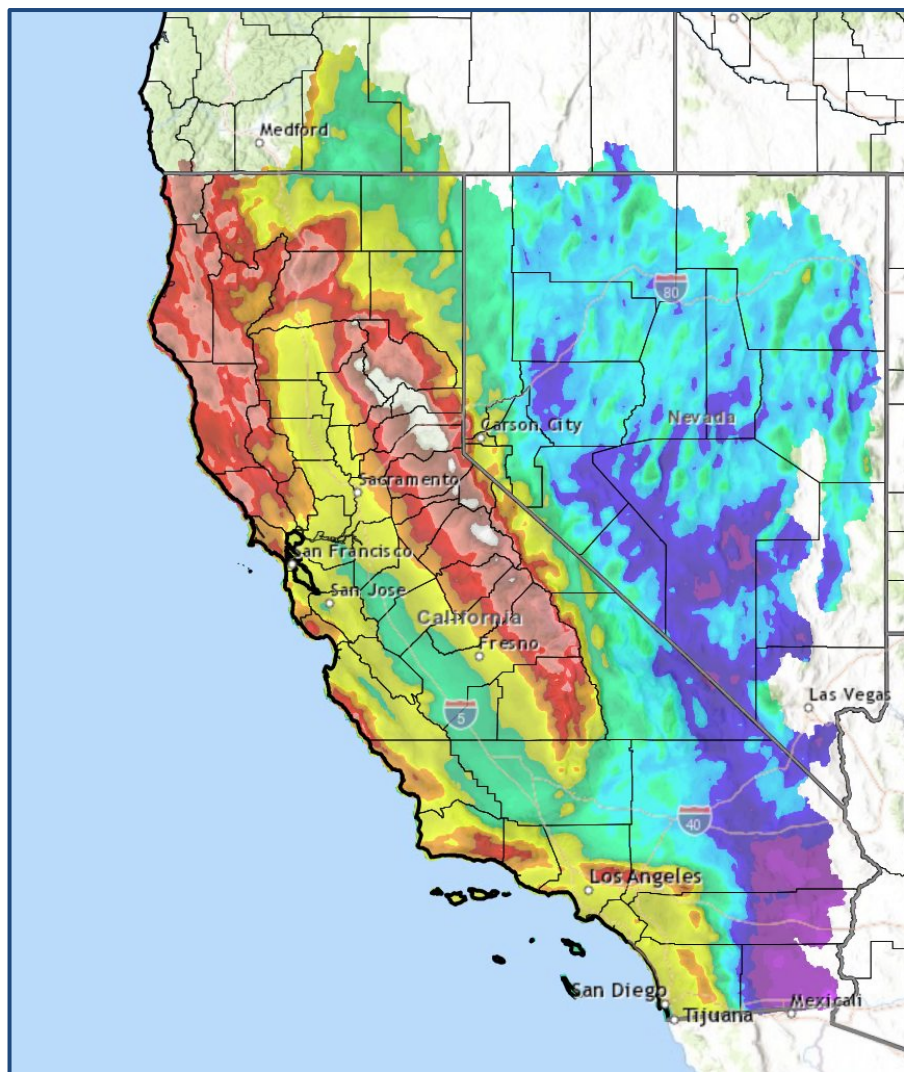
Note: Forecast precipitation amounts are an average for any particular location. Thunderstorms may produce locally higher rainfall amounts.

Precipitation (inches)



6 DAY PRECIPITATION FORECAST

4 AM 12/19/21 - 4 AM 12/25/21



Precipitation (inches)



WEATHER OUTLOOK

12/24/21 - 01/01/22

6-10 Day Outlook (December 24 – December 28)

Temperatures

- Below normal temperatures are favored statewide, especially across northern California

Precipitation

- Above normal precipitation is favored statewide, especially over the Sierra

8-14 Day Outlook (December 26 – January 1)

Temperatures

- Below normal temperatures are favored statewide, especially across northern California

Precipitation

- Above normal precipitation is slightly favored statewide, with the highest probabilities for above normal precipitation across the Sierra



Information provided by:

**National Weather Service
Western Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Salt Lake City, UT**

Phone: (801) 524-7907

E-mail: wr.roc@noaa.gov

Web: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/>

